

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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2-13-81



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

The Assistant Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty to disclose, applicants submit herewith a copy of the European Search Report issued in a counterpart foreign application, an English-language version of the Search Report and a copy of each of the publications cited therein; the publications are listed on attached form PTO-1449.

Since the European Search Report was issued in connection with a counterpart application and indicates the degree of relevance of each of the publications as assessed by the foreign patent office, the English-language version of the European Search Report meets the concise explanation requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98 (a) (3), see 57 Fed. Reg. 2031, comment 68 (1992).

Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested, since the Examiner may consider the information provided herein material to the patentability

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ON January 16, 2001 (DATE OF DEPOSIT)

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of the subject application as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed outside of the time period specified in 37 CFR § 1.97 (b), but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, no fee or certification is required.

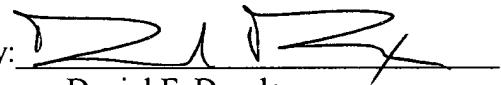
However, in the event the Commissioner of Patents deems that any fee is required under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in connection with this application, applicants' attorneys authorize that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

DENNIS RICHARD HAYWARD, ET AL.

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicants' Attorneys

By:


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